

**Ms. Barbara (Barb) Carson
Acting Associate Administrator
Office of Veterans Business Development
U.S. Small Business Administration**



Ms. Barbara Carson joined the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), in Washington, D.C, in June 2013. She is the Acting Associate Administrator for the Office of Veterans Business Development (OVBD). At SBA, Ms. Carson develops, promotes and employs policies and programs that support veteran owned small business. Her efforts focus on SBA veteran related programs for active duty and reserve service members, service disabled veterans, and military dependents and survivors.

Ms. Carson graduated from the University of Iowa in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. A Distinguished Graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, she was commissioned as an active duty U.S. Air Force officer and has served in multiple assignments in the nuclear and public affairs career fields.

Initially, she served on an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) crew, achieving the position of Senior Missile Combat Crew Evaluator for the Peacekeeper ICBM force.

In 1998, she joined the U.S. Air Force Reserve, earning another specialty code as a military public affairs officer. She is currently a Colonel and assigned to the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs.

During a family military assignment to Japan in 2006, Ms. Carson embarked on her first entrepreneurial adventure where she co-developed an outdoor personal training business with another military veteran. The business prospered and ignited her passion for and personal understanding of veteran owned business.

In 2011, Ms. Carson joined Headquarters, U.S. European Command (EUCOM) Office of Public Affairs in Stuttgart, Germany, in a unique opportunity to innovate communication. She worked with leaders in the EUCOM Operations Division to integrate efforts of the U.S. Department of State, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and non-government organizations in Europe to leverage social media and crowdsourcing in civil-military crisis response. Additionally, in EUCOM, she served as the Chief of Procedures for Nuclear Command and Control, late 2011 through May, 2013.

While serving on active duty, she earned a Master of Arts degree in Management from Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Ms. Carson shares three wonderful children with her spouse, an active duty U.S. Air Force pilot.